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DAN SMOOT

THE UN'S PROUDEST ACCOMPLISHMENT

In his Legislative Report to constituents, December 2, 1970, U. S. Representative H. R. Gross (Iowa Republican) said:

"The published guff that is handed the American public these days is almost unbelievable. Witness the following from a nationally circulated news magazine:

"'*As evidence of the way things have changed in the Congo, the re-election of President Joseph D. Mobutu on November 2 passed almost unnoted in the outside world.*'

"Mobutu is a ruthless African dictator. He became 'president' of the Congo a few years ago [1966] when he got control of the military, hanged opposition leaders in the public square at high noon, and massacred or imprisoned their followers."

Mr. Gross calls the magazine story about the peaceful election in the Congo *guff* because it is typical of current liberal propaganda intended to convey the impression that the United Nations brought tranquility and representative government to the Congo.

Earlier this year, Charles Yost, then U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, was on NBC's *Meet the Press* to talk about the UN. The program was almost over; and nothing had been said to serve the real purpose of the Yost interview — namely, to drench a national audience with pro-UN propaganda. One of the panelists said:

"Can you think of some places where the UN has been a conspicuous success? I think we are all aware of some of its failures."[1]

Ambassador Yost replied:

"I think it has been a success in a number of peacekeeping operations. I think the Congo operation was a very substantial success. The cold war was kept out of the Congo; the Congo was kept together. The big powers didn't get involved there in the way they have gotten involved in other

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areas, and now the Congo is a reasonably stable society."[1]

The Congo operation was probably the most shameful episode in the history of the United Nations.

The Congo (bigger than Alaska and Texas combined, and the heartland of the vast mineral wealth of equatorial Africa) became a dependency, or plantation, of the King of Belgium in 1885. In 1908, it became a Belgian colony. It prospered as such, though its people (about 200 tribes of Bantus) were quite primitive. Such civilization as the Congolese now have was brought to them by European and American businessmen and missionaries.

Following World War II, the Soviet Union intensified the international communist campaign of hatred against European colonial powers. Communists knew that if established white rule could be eliminated in such places as the Congo, chaos would ensue, giving communists an opportunity to take over.

Pretending to support the ideal of independence and self-determination for all peoples, the United Nations helped fan the fires of hatred against European colonialism — while ignoring the really barbaric, and far more extensive, colonialism of the Soviets in Asia and Europe.

On June 30, 1960, Belgium, under strong American and United Nations pressure, recognized the Congo as an independent nation.[2]

On July 6, 1960, African soldiers mutinied against their white Belgian officers. Drunken and berserk Africans rampaged in an orgy of murder, mayhem, rape, and pillage.

African atrocities — even against the once-loved white missionaries and medical doctors of the interior — are too horrible to relate.

Patrice Lumumba, communist African prime minister of the new country, lashed the primitive people with demagogic appeals to black racism.

The Belgian government sent back several units of paratroopers to restore order, and evacuate whites. Lumumba asked for UN military assistance to protect the Congo against "Belgian military intervention."

On July 14, the UN Security Council adopted a resolution calling upon the Belgians to withdraw, and authorizing the Secretary-General to send UN invasion forces into the Congo.

On July 16, 1960, before all whites had been evacuated, the first UN soldiers were sped in by U.S. Air Force planes. Belgian troops withdrew under fire.

During July and August, 1960, hundreds of Soviet, Czech, and other communist-bloc technicians arrived in the Congo; and large quantities of communist money, arms, planes, and trucks were sent in to support the Lumumba regime.

Dag Hammarskjold, then Secretary-General of the United Nations, said this Soviet aid to Lumumba was in support of United Nations policy. The U.S. also gave aid to Lumumba.

In September, 1960, Lumumba was overthrown and imprisoned. Later, he escaped, and was murdered.

After the overthrow of Lumumba, the United Nations decided to disarm all opposing Congolese factions and to control the country with UN military force.

In August, 1961, Cyrille Adoula (a socialist) became premier of the Congo Republic. Antoine Gizenga (a Soviet-trained communist) became first vice premier. Adoula appointed another Soviet-trained communist as chief administrator of Katanga (the most prosperous, civilized, and orderly province in the Congo).

Moise Tshombe (anti-communist and pro-western) was president of Katanga. Because of the chaos and communist government in the Congo, Tshombe had declared Katanga independent of the Congo Republic. He refused to recognize the authority of the communist who had been appointed as administrator of Katanga.

Since the UN claimed to be supporting the principle of self-determination and independence for colonial people, Tshombe expected the UN to support his effort for Katangan independence. Instead, the United Nations directed its entire military effort against Katanga, to destroy Tshombe and force Katanga back into the Congo Republic. In pursuit of the policy of "federalizing" the Congo, UN forces bombed hospitals, homes, industrial plants, and schools in Katanga. UN Af-

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rican and Asian troops committed indescribable atrocities upon women, children, missionaries, doctors, and other civilians.

Eventually, the UN war on behalf of the communist-controlled central Congolese government succeeded. The once prosperous and orderly province of Katanga was devastated. Moise Tshombe left his country on May 31, 1963, to avoid arrest.

Though communists were the beneficiaries of the UN Congo operation, communist nations refused to help pay for it, denouncing it as American neo-colonialism. The net result was that American taxpayers paid practically all the costs.

After withdrawal of UN troops in June, 1964, the central Congolese government could not maintain order. Moise Tshombe was invited back to the Congo to become premier.

As soon as Tshombe took control of the central Congolese government in July, 1964, communists incited rebellion against him. Communists provided narcotics and weapons to savages, appealing to their blood-lust, urging them to rape, pillage, and cannibalize — promising that all whites in the Congo would be butchered. In August, 1964, Stanleyville (now, Kisangani, second largest city in the Congo, with a population of 300,000) fell to 100 rebels who drove into the city in six trucks. Defending troops fled, or got out of uniform and joined the crowds to welcome the rebels.

Seeing that his black armies would not fight, Tshombe hired about 300 white officers and technicians, principally South Africans, Rhodesians, and Belgians.

By late August, 1964, communist rebels held most of the northern portion of the Congo — the area around Stanleyville. Under white leadership, however, Tshombe's armies were proving effective, moving northward, retaking territory held by rebels.

Shortly after Stanleyville fell to rebels, U.S. Undersecretary of State W. Averell Harriman flew to Brussels to discuss with the Belgian foreign minister the possibility of negotiations to free white hostages. Christophe Gbenye (titular head of the communist rebel government in the Congo) also went to Brussels for the discussions.

It was evident from the beginning that negotiating with communists was futile. Yet, Belgians and Americans were reluctant to undertake direct rescue action.

Then, a note of horror was sounded. In Stanleyville, a communist-led youth group demanded the blood of all whites in the Congo, unknown numbers of whom were being held as hostages. They would be tortured to death, butchered, and eaten if Tshombe's white-led forces continued their drive against rebels.

On November 13, 1964, Christophe Gbenye announced that all whites would be murdered if Tshombe's march on Stanleyville continued. Gbenye said:

"We will make our fetishes with the hearts of the Americans and Belgians. We will dress ourselves in the skins of Americans and Belgians."

On November 17, and again on November 19, mobs of black savages surrounded buildings holding white prisoners in Stanleyville, demanding their blood, taunting them by describing which parts of their bodies would be eaten. Gbenye egged the mobs on, promising that all white hostages would be roasted alive and eaten.

Americans and Belgians finally decided on a rescue operation.

Early in the morning of November 24, 1964, ten American transport planes landed 400 Belgian paratroopers at Stanleyville airport. As the paratroopers approached the center of the city, rebels herded white prisoners (men, women, and children) into the streets and started shooting them. The Belgians found 63 dead, but rescued approximately 1800, who were carried to safety by the American planes. In a similar operation in the nearby town of Paulis, rescuers found 20 whites beaten to death, but saved about 200.

The UN had been quick and harsh about crushing the province of Katanga, forcing it to submit to the authority of the communist-conrolled central government. But when the tables were turned, and communists were rebelling against the central government presided over by anti-communist Tshombe, the United Nations sided with the rebels.

Belgian paratroopers and American planes

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withdrew from Stanleyville on November 24, 1964, before completing their mission of rescuing *all* whites in the city. Why? Because black African, some Asian, and all communist nations in the United Nations protested noisily about Belgian-American "intervention" in Congolese affairs.

Alex Quaison-Sackey (UN spokesman for the communist dictator of Ghana) publicly denounced the U.S. for the Congo rescue operation. Two days later, Quaison-Sackey, by unanimous acclamation, was installed as president of the United Nations General Assembly in New York.

A few hours after the Belgian-American rescue team withdrew from Stanleyville on November 24, 1964, a column of Tshombe's forces reached Stanleyville, rescued a few more whites, and drove rebels out of the city.

Conditions grew worse in the Congo, however. Communist-made arms were still going to savages, some of whom still practiced cannibalism. American-made arms were going to uniformed Congolese troops who had recently run amok on a barbaric spree of murder, rape, and pillage. A majority of UN member nations were openly sympathetic with, and many were giving aid to, the communist rebels; but the UN as an organization did nothing.

As the year 1964 ended, the U.S. government was pressing Tshombe to make peace with the communist rebels and take them into his government. Tshombe resisted, because a coalition government with communits always means surrender to communists.

In October, 1965, Tshombe was ousted as premier, and went into exile. He later died, or was murdered, in a communist prison in Algiers.[3]

Joseph Mobutu seized power and installed himself as dictator of the Congo Republic in 1966. Mobutu had acted like an anti-communist during the communist regime of Lumumba in 1960. He is an anti-American socialist and is, as Congressman Gross calls him, a ruthless dictator; but the Soviets do not like him because he is not totally subservient to them.[3]

In 1967, the U.S. helped crush a native (non-communist) revolt against Mobutu.[3] Since then, Mobutu "legalizes" his dictatorship by having himself "elected" periodically.

That was the UN Congo operation, which Ambassador Yost cited as the proudest accomplishment of the United Nations.

NEW YEARS RESOLUTION FOR 1971: Write to President Nixon, your two Senators, and your Congressman. Remind them that if the UN is the world's best hope for peace, we would be safer spending our money preparing our own defenses. Tell them you are tired of being taxed to provide a forum for foreigners to berate our country and propagandize for communism.

Tell them you want the U.S. out of the UN and the UN out of the U.S., NOW!

* * *

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FOOTNOTES

(1) Transcript of *Meet The Press* program, NBC-TV, June 21, 1970
(2) For events in the Congo through 1961, see *Who Killed The Congo?* by Philippa Schuyler, Devin-Adair Company, 1962. For detailed documentation of material in this *Report* through 1964, see "Congo Intrigue," 1962 Bound Volume, *Dan Smoot Report*, pp. 369-376; "United Nations In Africa," 1963 Bound Volume, pp. 113-120; "Lest We Forget," 1964 Bound Volume, pp. 265-267; "Congo Tragedy," 1965 Bound Volume, pp. 9-15.
(3) *The 1969 World Almanac*, p. 505

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